



Georgia On My Mind

Monthly Newsletter of the ARRL Georgia Section



March 2023

April is Busy!!

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3/18/23 - Sevier County (TN) Hamfest

4/1-2/23 - Georgia Park POTA Day

4/8-9/23 - Georgia QSO Party

4/22/23 - Calhoun Hamfest

6/3/23 - Atlanta Hamfest www.atlantahamfest.org

Georgia on My Mind is a monthly newsletter of the ARRL, Georgia Section, highlighting the activities of Amateur Radio Operators and Clubs within the State.

To submit pictures, articles, or notices, please email the editor Karen Spradlin, K4LJS, at GeorgiaSectionARRL@gmail.com before the 5th of each month.

To see previous issues of **Georgia on My Mind**:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1f6WBBhYzN-4Z-D69x0ceGIIpGcQulWI1?usp=share_link

SkyWarn Report Format, per WX4PTC

This is the process you need to use if you are calling as a liaison or with just a weather report; (And this is on the Georgia Skywarn Linked Repeater System)

1) Get net control's attention. (Call WX4PTC) Do not just key up and start giving the weather event report. Be aware that we talk with the staff at times to get information or vice versa.

2) Give your report to the NCS at "writing speed" (talk slower!). They are writing this down before typing this into any document or NWS-Chat.

3) Info needed;

a) Callsign (Both phonetically and in plain English. i.e. Kilo Delta Four Yankee Delta Charlie, KD4YDC). This is now a requirement. It will save time in the long run.

b) What event happened? (Hail, tree down, roof off of house, etc.)

c) When did this event happen? (If unsure give the best guesstimate you can)

d) Where did this happen? (Street address and town. If unknown, give a crossroad that it is close to. X miles (N,S, E or W) from the city or town)

e) Who did you get this report from if it was someone else than yourself? (Give us the roadmap of where it came from so we can pass this along to the staff.)

Remember do not call in Non-Severe reports unless asked for. Severe means:

Winds 58 mph or greater

Hail dime size or larger

Trees down (even if it is one, look for more)

Structural damage

If it is flooding that is going to be more than 1" per hour rainfall. Remember street flooding can and often does with much less rain because of clogged drains.

Upcoming Events

26th Annual Calhoun, Georgia

HAMFEST

2023 April 22
8AM - 2PM



ADMISSION: \$5 includes FREE parking and FREE tailgating



The Cherokee Capital Amateur Radio Society
is pleased to sponsor our annual HAMFEST
Browse the vendors. Sell unneeded gear for extra cash!
Find that perfect addition for your rig.

VE TESTING—11am

Technician, General, & Extra

Please bring ID & FRN. Must have valid email

Testing Fee: \$15

ADDRESS

Hill City Baptist Church
1411 Hill City Rd NW
Resaca, GA.

TALK-IN

443.675 + PL 100
146.685 - PL 167.9
146.745 - PL 100

DIRECTIONS

From I-75 Southbound:

Take Exit 326 (Carbondale Rd).

Turn right and travel 4 miles to the site on the left

From I-75 Northbound:

Take Exit 320 (Resaca), Turn Left

Travel 3.7 miles to Coal Rd

Turn right onto Coal Rd.

Travel 0.7 miles to the site on the right.

CONTACT Felton Floyd, AF4DN / af4dn@arrl.net / 770-324-9859 / K4WOC.com

Be a Citizen Scientist

Be a Citizen Scientist with the
CrowdMag app



National Centers for
Environmental Information



Assist NOAA scientists by collecting
data about Earth's magnetic field. Use
their **CrowdMag** app available on
Google Play and iTunes.

More information can be found at
<https://science.nasa.gov/citizenscience>

or in the September 2022 issue of
Georgia On My Mind
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rerboP3wVme7sKZ6tAZFTrZtdcPdECtL>

During the last Total Solar Eclipse,
in 2017, a QSO party was held
and with the help of Amateur Ra-
dio enthusiasts the follow-
ing results were tabulated <https://hamsci.org/seqp>. The next Total
Solar Eclipse, **April 8, 2024**

<https://news.scranton.edu/articles/2022/08/news-faculty-nsf-eclipse-frissell-2022.shtml>

Georgia Death Race

Every year, the northern Georgia ham clubs provide support for the Georgia Death Race, by providing critical communications support for the runners, the organizers, and most importantly emergency services.

With the race covering 74ish miles, up and down through the mountains, with 11 aid stations (complete with ham radio stations), having experienced ham operators to participate is essential.

If you are interested in helping out an existing team, please contact coordinator Frank Dean, K4SJR@arrl.net.



POTA & Club News

Georgia State Parks on the Air

April 1 @ 9:00 pm - Apr 2 @ 8:00 pm

<https://www.facebook.com/events/568831084998544/?ref=newsfeed>



The Georgia State Parks on the Air event website is online now at <https://gaparks.org/>.

It's on the weekend of April 1-2, 2023, with state-wide POTA activations of all 50 Georgia State Parks! The idea is to enlist enough hams from all over to fan out across the state and activate 50 parks over the course of that one weekend. You've probably seen other states activating all of their parks on one weekend, and now Georgia will be doing the same. There is a process for individuals, clubs, and ARES groups to sign up for particular parks, with the possibility that several parks will see multiple activators. In addition to regular POTA credits, there will also be recognition for contacts and activations during the event, including Georgia park-to-park contacts. And because POTA activations are good training for ARES deployments, there will even be a little "friendly competition" among ARES groups. This should be a ton of fun.

To the right is a list of Georgia POTA parks, so you can check off each one as you make contact!

Hall County ARES

Edith Collins KN4NDV has been appointed Hall County SkyWarn Coordinator. Let's all congratulate Edith on her new appointment.

Gwinnett County Amateur Radio Club

2-Day Technician Ham Cram, Saturday & Sunday, March 25 – 26th, 8am to 4pm each day

2-Day General Ham Cram Saturday, April 29th, and Sunday, April 30th, 8am to 4pm each day

Register for each class on <https://GARS.org/>

Paulding Amateur Radio Club

Carlos Smith, Finally made some digital contacts, then the power went out, now, if I can find them and put them in the log.



K-0636 Jekyll Island State Park
K-2165 A. H. Stephens State Park
K-2166 Amicalola Falls State Park
K-2167 Black Rock Mountain State Park
K-2168 Chattahoochee Bend State Park
K-2169 Cloudland Canyon State Park
K-2170 Crooked River State Park
K-2171 Don Carter State Park
K-2172 Elijah Clark State Park
K-2173 F.D. Roosevelt State Park
K-2174 Florence Marina State Park
K-2175 Fort McAllister State Park
K-2176 Fort Mountain State Park
K-2177 Fort Yargo State Park
K-2178 General Coffee State Park
K-2179 George L. Smith State Park
K-2180 George T. Bagby and Lodge State Park
K-2181 Georgia Veterans State Park
K-2182 Jack Hill State Park
K-2183 Hamburg State Park
K-2184 Hard Labor Creek State Park
K-2185 High Falls State Park
K-2186 Indian Springs State Park
K-2187 James H. (Sloppy) Floyd State Park
K-2188 Laura S. Walker State Park
K-2189 Little Ocmulgee State Park
K-2190 Magnolia Springs State Park
K-2191 Mistletoe State Park
K-2192 Moccasin Creek State Park
K-2193 Panola Mountain State Park
K-2194 Red Top Mountain State Park
K-2195 Reed Bingham State Park
K-2196 Richard B. Russell State Park
K-2197 Seminole State Park
K-2198 Skidaway Island State Park
K-2199 Smithgall Woods State Park
K-2200 Stephen C Foster State Park
K-2201 Sweetwater Creek State Park
K-2202 Tallulah Gorge State Park
K-2203 Tugaloo State Park
K-2204 Unicoi State Park
K-2205 Victoria Bryant State Park
K-2206 Vogel State Park
K-2207 Watson Mill Bridge State Park
K-3726 Kolomoki Mounds State Park
K-3727 Hart State Park
K-3728 Providence Canyon State Park
K-7858 Dames Ferry Campground State Park
K-7861 Suwannee River Eco-Lodge State Park
K-7896 Standing Boy Creek State Park

GA QSO Party

Georgia QSO Party April 8th and 9th

Please make plans to operate the **Georgia QSO Party (GQP) on April 8th and 9th**. The GQP is an amateur radio operating event sponsored by the **South East Contest Club** and **Southeastern DX Club**. It's been held annually since 1960. The current GQP contest director is Jeff KU8E. More information is at: <https://gaqsoparty.com/>.

The operating periods for the GQP are from **Saturday 1800Z until Sunday 0359Z** and **Sunday 1400Z until Sunday 2359Z**. In local time, that is **2:00 PM EDT until 11:59 PM EDT on Saturday** and **10:00 AM EDT until 7:59 PM EDT on Sunday**. Operate for as little or much of this as you wish. Bands are 160M through 6M (minus the WARC bands).

The object of this competition is for amateur radio operators **outside** of Georgia to make on the air contacts with stations located inside the state of Georgia. Stations located **inside** Georgia can work everyone. For Georgia stations, the contest exchange is a signal report plus your county abbreviation. Stations outside of Georgia send signal report, and their state or province (or in the case of DX, just DX). Make sure to look up your four-letter county abbreviation on the website. For Georgia stations, the multipliers are states and provinces per mode (CW and phone), not per band.

This is a great way to show **ham radio pride** across Georgia. You don't need to be a serious contester to participate in this event, and casual operation is encouraged. And while the GQP hopes you will turn in your log, it is not required – and paper logs are still accepted.

There are numerous different categories you can enter, depending on power and mode. If you are serious about winning, be sure to look-up and understand the scoring rules. There is also a very nice award program that's managed by Chaz, W4GKF. The **plaques** are wood, 7" x 9" in size, and there are 21 available for winning entries from inside Georgia (please note that a minimum of 50 contacts is required to receive a plaque). There are also gavels available to the highest club scores. Check the website for details.

Attention **POTA** enthusiasts. There are three portable categories (CW/Phone/Mixed), which



requires you (or you and a team) activate two different counties with true portable antennas (i.e. not a mobile antenna mounted on a vehicle). This combines very nicely with two or more POTA activations over the weekend. You get to count all the POTA contacts towards your GQP total, can use the POTA spotting network, and can work everyone again once you get to a new county. Just make sure to operate from at least two counties. And then submit logs both to POTA and to the GQP.

This is one operating event where for Georgia stations, you are the DX. You can call CQ and have a steady stream of callers. Or you can spin the dial and work other stations, especially those in Georgia. Spotting and cluster-use is allowed in all categories. You are allowed to self-spot, using either the main clusters or the dedicated cluster page for the GA QSO Party (<http://qsopartyhub.com/gaqp-spots.php>). And remember that you can spend as little or much time on air as you want. If you devote a few hours over the weekend, you will provide QSOs and multipliers to many. And if you decide not to turn in your logs, no big deal.

The times of highest activity are the first hour of the contest on Saturday (2-3pm), the last few hours on Sunday (5-8pm), as well as late afternoon and early evening on Saturday. However you can find stations to work anytime.

New this year in the rules is that **county-line operation** is allowed for rovers (i.e. mobiles) and portables.

Electronic logging is recommended, and N3FJP's State QSO Party logger, as well as N1MM+, are already set-up to handle the GQP. And they will create the correct Cabrillo file which you can submit via the GQP website. You can also use WA7BNM's Web-to-Cabrillo form to generate the Cabrillo file after the contest is over (http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/gaqp_cab3.php). And the contest still accepts paper logs. Details in the rules section of the website.

Dalton Hamfest

The Dalton Hamfest on February 25, was a resounding success, with over 1200 participants!

At the event our Section Manager, David Benoist AG4ZR, received the Quilts of Valor Award for his military service.



Hamfest & ARES

Atlanta Hamfest accepting nominations for this year's Hamfest Awards

The 2023 Atlanta Hamfest is a few months away, make plans to attend and support this event, June 3rd!

If you know an individual or club that deserves recognition for their efforts on behalf of amateur radio here in Georgia and want to nominate them for a 2023 Atlanta Hamfest Award, don't delay. Nominations close April 25th.

There are three Awards available for individuals:

Educator of the Year is given to an individual in Georgia who has made an outstanding contribution educating and advancing youth in Amateur Radio. This individual will have a history of dedication to working with youth, being a role model and advancing youth in the science of radio communication will be given to a selected radio amateur who has made important contributions toward technical excellence in the world of radio. This award comes with a \$250 grant or award.

Georgia Club of the Year Award will be given to a deserving club in Georgia that has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the radio art and or science in the state.

Amateur of the Year Award is given to a radio amateur in Georgia that has made a long-term commitment to the advancement of amateur radio. This individual will usually have a history of ham radio contributions and has had a dedication to service, professionalism, and the advancement of amateur radio.

Nomination forms are available at, www.atlantahamfest.com, at a minimum, each form should be completed with the information indicated but additional documentation is welcome. Please make sure that the nominating person is identified with a method to reach them in the case of questions from the nominating committee.

Forms may be submitted using the following methods: Email awards@atlantaradioclub.org ; U.S. Postal Mail: Atlanta Radio Club Attn: Hamfest Awards Committee. 227 Sandy Springs Place Suite D-306, Sandy Springs, GA 30328. Thank you and please address any questions to: awards@atlantaradioclub.org

The Atlanta Hamfest, an official ARRL Sanctioned Georgia Section Event, will be held Saturday, June 3, 2023 in the newly constructed 40,000 sq ft convention building at Jim Miller Park in Cobb County. Keep the date open on your calendar and plan to attend. This is our opportunity to see everything that is new in our great hobby, the newest products, the newest ideas and the latest from our Amateur Radio vendors. The Atlanta Hamfest also brings great speakers to the forum agenda, check the hamfest website for full details and things are updated over the next few months. For more information www.atlantahamfest.com

Statewide Tornado Drills Held

The GA ARES NWS Tornado Drill nets were conducted on February 8th with the following 49 counties participation.

Baldwin, Bartow, Berrien, Bibb, Bryan, Bulloch, Butts, Carroll, Catooga, Chattooga, Cherokee, Clarke, Cobb, Coweta, Crisp, Dekalb, Dooly, Dougherty, Effingham, Elbert, Fannin, Fayette, Floyd, Forsyth, Fulton, Gilmer, Gordon, Gwinnett, Jackson, Johnson, Lamar, Laurens, Lee, Lowndes, Monroe, Newton, Oglethorpe, Paulding, Peach, Polk, Richmond, Rockdale, Spalding, Sumpter, Taylor, Troup, Upson, Walton and White. Thanks for great participation in the HF, Winlink and Intertie nets.

Frank Hobbs - KN4QJ

Thanks to everyone that checked in on the Georgia Skywarn Linked Repeater System for the statewide tornado drill for the NWS in PTC. We had 39 counties represented with 137 check ins. The counties represented were; Bartow, Bibb, Butts, Carroll, Catoosa, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dawson, Dekalb, Dodge, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gilmer, Gordon, Gwinnett, Henry, Houston, Lamar, Laurens, Meriwether, Monroe, Newton, Paulding, Peach, Pickens, Pike, Polk, Rockdale, Spalding, Taylor, Troup, Upson, Washington.

Thanks so much to the repeater owners and for the folks who checked in this morning.

*Robert Burton, KD4YDC
DEC NWS in PTC*

All Aboard the C.E.R.T. Train

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) concept is a major, growing concern in the quickly evolving arena of emergency management on a micro versus macro scale, and deserves the full attention of ARES -- and indeed any radio amateur -- as a top priority for the coming year.

CERT is the wave of the future -- the immediate future -- as limited resources for disaster response at all levels of government (local, state, and federal) are bumping up against the ever-increasing needs of the populace due to the elevating incidence and ferocity of natural and manmade disasters. The CERT concept is part of the answer to this dilemma: residents on a street or in an apartment complex will network and be trained to take care of themselves in the first critical post-disaster hours and possibly days when no outside help is available. Think of the CERT program as a kind of block party, only instead of socializing over hot dogs and hamburgers, neighbors get together to train and plan to look after each other when dealing with the effects of a disaster. When you really think about this concept, it has implications that are of a serious, life-and-death nature.

The CERT program is a FEMA program, part of its Citizen Corps and Ready campaigns, but had its origins in forward-thinking fire and EMS units in southern California decades ago. Neighbors are trained in conducting an initial assessment of their own homes and survival kits. They learn to reduce the immediate dangers presented by a disaster by turning off utilities, suppressing small fires, evacuating the area, and helping others. They learn to treat people in the immediate area. They learn to implement their own Incident Command System -- they establish a command post, staging area, and medical triage and treatment areas. They learn to collect damage information and develop a plan of operation based on life-saving priorities and available resources. And they learn to establish and maintain communications with responders and the outside world.

The radio amateur, especially an ARES-registered operator, is the ideal candidate for forming and leading a neighborhood Community Emergency Response Team. A critical part of the CERT's planning and operations is radio communications, and we as radio amateurs have the experience and credibility for this emergency support function out of the gate. Become a CERT leader! Every journey of recruiting a dozen homes on a street for a CERT begins with the first, perhaps your next door neighbor. Talk to him or her "over the fence" and start planning and drafting your team. Read and use the FEMA publication [CERT User Guide](#). There are many resources to

help you! You can start with [FEMA's Independent Study Course on CERT](#). A reader recently called my attention to a new library of disaster-related training with numerous videos, including several on *Neighborhood Preparedness and Response*. I haven't had a chance to review the materials yet, but I will. The library can be accessed at the [Just In Time Disaster Training](#) website.

FEMA has a number of resources available to the CERT members and leader. You can get the [CERT National Newsletter](#) as well as [Search CERT programs by location](#).

You can [register](#) a new CERT program with FEMA online. This page is for registering CERT programs only, however, not to register individuals or individual teams sponsored by a local CERT program. To be an official CERT program, the program must be operated by a local emergency response organization such as your local Fire Department or Office of Emergency Management and endorsed by the local Citizen Corps Council, if your community has one. The program coordinators must conduct the CERT Basic Training Course and hold a CERT exercise at least once a year. There must be a point of contact to be posted with other program information on the national CERT website.

Search to find a CERT program in your locale to help you set up and establish your neighborhood CERT. The CERT concept can also be extended to workplaces -- the same ideals apply!

Conclusion: You are On Your Own! "Winging It is Not an Emergency Plan"

The government's promotional language often reads like this: "When a disaster or overwhelming event occurs and responders are not immediately available, CERTs can assist..." Let's examine what they're really saying in plain terms: When your house and family are in immediate danger in the first minutes and hours after a disaster, you are on your own. There will likely be no EMS, fire, police or any other agency responders to save you and your family and neighbors. Your survival is up to you alone, based on your preparations and the help from your immediate neighbors on your street. Your chances will be greatly enhanced with an organized neighborhood response -- the kind of response that is at the heart of the CERT concept. Make it your New Year's resolution to form your own neighborhood CERT!

Interesting Events

Basic CW Traffic Handling

The Georgia CW Training Net (GTN) had 7 members of the net who recently completed a roughly 4-month long course in Basic CW Traffic Handling. All 7 of the course graduates received a PDF certificate of course completion on February 4, 2023. Mike Shreve - N6MRS, Don Krieger - K4ZXM, Don Nelligan - KI4MZC, Larry Nagle - K3FZD, Aaron Ray - N4ARY, Danny Kelley - KI4KXO, Mike Henderson - KG4IMI.

During the course, participants had to demonstrate proficiency in sending and receiving CW traffic messages using the standard ARRL message format, and they completed assignments by sending received messages back to the Net Manager. They also learned basic CW net Q-codes and procedures, traffic handling prosigns and Q-codes as well as correct formatting of traffic messages. The course was conducted by Jerry Brunet, WE4GA, who is the Net Manager and primary NCS for GTN. An advanced CW traffic handling course is planned to be offered on the net at some point later this year.

The Georgia CW Training Net meets 365 nights a year at 9 PM Eastern Time on 3.549 Mhz. and operates at a speed of approximately 11 WPM.

Frank Hobbs - KN4QJ

West Georgia Amateur Radio Society

Things have been fairly busy out in West Georgia. The WGARS held a fox-hunt on New Years Eve. Even though it was a bit rainy, there was great turnout with operators from all around the west Georgia area. It was a two-stage hunt so one had to find the first fox in order to know the frequency of the second. Paige, KN4GHU and her family (Team Veal) found the first fox before anyone else and a group we lovingly refer to as the "Alabama Boys" KF4DVW, KJ4SHI, and KO4OHN were the first to the second.

The last weekend of the month saw Winter Field Day. This is something that WGARS has been participating in for the last 5 years. It has become one of our more popular activities. Last year we camped in the Talladega National Forest. This year we stayed closer to home and camped at the Little Tallapoosa Park north of Carrollton. KK4OHF - Marshall was the organizer of the event. He was able to stir up many hams came out of the woodwork from surrounding counties to operate as W4F 4M. Over 800 contacts were made including SSB, CW, and Digital.

The next items in the works but not yet scheduled include opening the club shack to play in a weekend contest, a high altitude balloon launch, and more fox-hunts.

John, WD8LQT



With Winter Field Day in the rearview mirror, we now look forward to our next event, N1D, a 24 hour event held on the University of Georgia campus to promote the hobby.

The Athens Radio Club, in conjunction with the UGA Amateur Radio Club, will be hosting the 2nd Annual N1D event. Due to construction at Sanford Stadium this spring, we are not allowed access to the stadium, but will instead be operating between Tate Center and UGA Bookstore, in the shadows of the stadium, at [The Tate North Lawn](#).

Thank you to the UGA ARC for securing the location, and for helping to promote the event.

The event will run from Saturday morning, 29Apr23 (9:00am setup) until after lunch on Sunday, 30Apr23.

We understand it is early, but signup is now active [HERE](#), and it's never too early to promote our events. Feel free to promote the event thorough your own social media. We welcome hams, those interested in becoming a ham, and those that have nothing better to do that weekend. *Please note, we are asking for your tag/license plate number so we can provide a list to UGA Parking Services to allow for free parking in the Tate Deck. If you don't provide a tag number, you will be subject to UGA parking rules/fees.*

Join us at our monthly club meeting Tuesday night for the unveiling of our N1D special event logo that we'll make available for embroidery and hopefully t-shirts, etc.

Jesse Hickey, N4JAH, Athens Radio Club - President, VE, Georgia ARES, Clarke County ARES

Important Federal and Georgia Bills

Are You Constrained by HOA Restrictions?

Well, if you are, here's a chance to change some things. Familiar with [OTARD](#)? Most folks initially are not. But, that is the government ruling that permits commercial satellite antenna systems to be installed in HOA or deed restricted neighborhoods. As you probably know such restricted neighborhoods are not open to allowing Amateur Radio operators to put up antennas. Several less than adequate attempts have been made in the past that went nowhere.

Here is the [text of House Resolution Bill 9670](#). I highly recommend that you read this Bill. In general the bill language recognizes the basis for HOA restrictions but makes reasonable provisions for Amateurs to use antennas. One cannot assume that if this legislation passes it gives them unfettered access to placing antennas of any kind anywhere on their property. It does, however, make reasonable allowances for installing some antennas with certain locations and in a manner that is sensitive to general property appearance.

There is language in this resolution that defines a process where an Amateur must work with the HOA entity for installing, maintaining, and dealing with antenna end-of-life or when an Amateur moves away. However, there are also some default situations where an antenna does not require HOA approval (end of page 7 top of page 8). There are a lot of "do's" and "cant's" in this document but definitely better than what is in place now. There has not been a better attempt that is as well written as this legislation for Amateurs to support.

What can you do if you are impacted by antenna restrictions in an HOA? There is an [example letter here](#) that you can use to modify and then send to your legislator. Consider modifying or adding some of your own comments to this letter. You should be able to cut-and-paste the text of this letter into your own document.

[Find your Federal House Representatives here.](#)

You can check on the [status of this legislation here](#).

Car License Plate Fee Removal

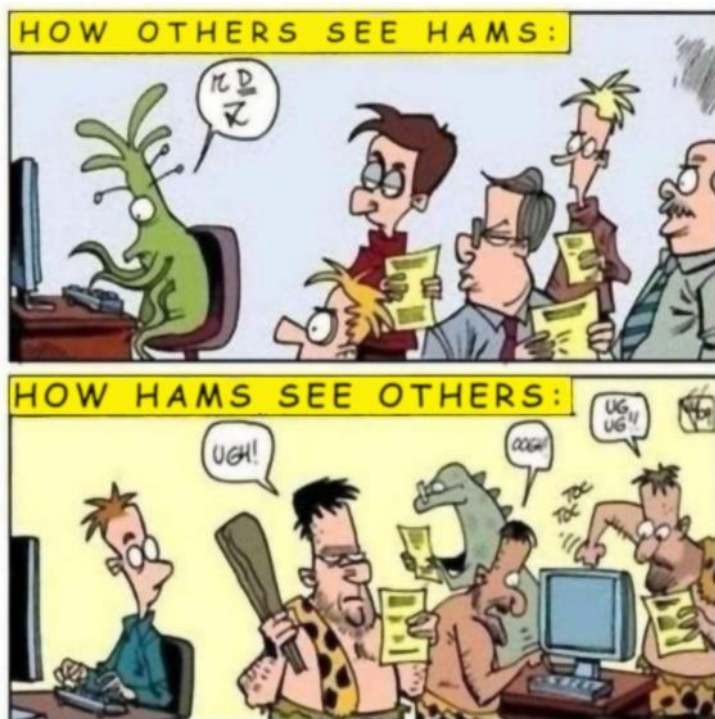
Georgia House Bill 706 is a bill to remove the license plate fees for an Amateur Radio License Plate. It is important to contact your Georgia Representative, Senator, the Motor Vehicle Committee and the Speaker of the House to support passage. You can read the complete bill at <https://legiscan.com/GA/bill/HB706/2023>.

You may find your Georgia Representative and Senator using this website: https://openstates.org/find_your_legislator/?address=

The members of the House Motor Vehicle Committee are:

john.corbett@house.ga.gov Lake Park
matt.barton@house.ga.gov Calhoun
danny.mathis@house.ga.gov Cochran
kimberly.alexander@house.ga.gov Hiram
demetrius.douglas@house.ga.gov Stockbridge
gregg.kennard@house.ga.gov Lawrenceville
dewey.mcclain@house.ga.gov Lawrenceville
martin.momtahan@house.ga.gov Dallas
alan.powell@house.ga.gov Hartwell
brian.prince@house.ga.gov Augusta
jason.ridley@house.ga.gov Chatsworth
vance.smith@house.ga.gov Pine Mountain
marcus.wiedower@house.ga.gov Watkinsville

Time is running short and a few minutes of your time will hopefully get it passed before the end of March.



POTA Awards

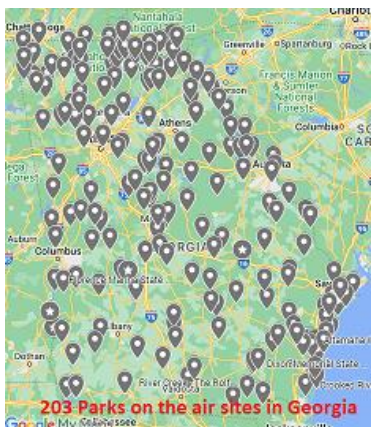
Claude Ray, AC4SH, Activates all 203 Georgia State Parks for POTA

Athens Radio Club member Claude Ray AC4SH is the first operator to complete activation of the 203 Georgia Parks on the Air (POTA) sites. He began July 7, 2020 from K-2207 Watson Mill Bridge State Park and traveled nearly 3 years to complete all the activations at K-0266 Wassaw Island NWR.



From K-0716 Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, possibly the most impressive park in northwest Georgia, to K-0267 Wolf Island National Wildlife Refuge off the southeastern coast, possibly the most difficult, AC4SH has seen many parts of beautiful Georgia that many have not. He credits this accomplishment to the support and encouragement of many other hams, especially the POTA hunters.

Many parks were only visited once, but AC4SH has multiple activations with 606 total Georgia activations and 34,559 QSOs within the state. Claude Ray, AC4SH gives credit to must go to the Parks on the Air organization itself for maintaining a supportive environment for the sporting side of Ham Radio. POTA will issue a certificate of achievement for this which will likely include artwork specific to our state.





The Athens Radio Club is proud that Claude Ray, AC4SH our member, has accomplished the first activation of all of Georgia's State Parks.

Mark Bell, N7GRB, Worked All States, POTA (no certificate pictured)



"Frank"ly Speaking POTA

Texas Wild Rice



That
Kenneth Franklin Dean
K4SJR
has submitted proof of working
600 unique reference areas
in the Parks on the Air program,
this certificate is hereby
presented in recognition of this
outstanding achievement.

600 Hunter Award

Jason Johnston
Jason Johnston, W3AAX, POTA Coordinator

02/04/2023
Date

Photo: Photo: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services via Wiki Commons

Wiggin's Acalpha



That
Kenneth Franklin Dean
K4SJR
has submitted proof of working
700 unique reference areas
in the Parks on the Air program,
this certificate is hereby
presented in recognition of this
outstanding achievement.



700 Hunter Award

Jason Johnston
Jason Johnston, W3AAX, POTA Coordinator

02/19/2023
Date

Photo: Public Domain

Georgia Aster





That
Kenneth Franklin Dean
K4SJR
has submitted proof of working
800 unique reference areas
in the Parks on the Air program,
this certificate is hereby
presented in recognition of this
outstanding achievement.

800 Hunter Award


Jason Johnston
Jason Johnston, W3AAX, POTA Coordinator

03/01/2023
Date

Photo: U.S. Fish and Wildlife via Wiki Commons



That
Kenneth Franklin Dean
K4SJR
has submitted proof of having
contacts from the same Parks
on the Air entity more than
20 times.



AWARD LEVEL
OASIS

(K-3791) Trail of Tears
National Historic Trail

Entity

Jason Johnston
Jason Johnston, W3AAX, POTA Coordinator

02/27/2023
Date

Western Prairie Fringed Orchid



That
Ed Walraven
KM4IOA
has submitted proof of working
1000 unique reference areas
in the Parks on the Air program,
this certificate is hereby
presented in recognition of this
outstanding achievement.

1000 Hunter Award

Jason Johnston
Jason Johnston, W3AAX, POTA Coordinator

02/17/2023
Date

Photo: National Park Service via Wiki Commons



Hunter Award

That
Kenneth Franklin Dean
K4SJR
has submitted proof of
having 300 QSOs
during the late shift.

late shift

Jason Johnston
Jason Johnston, W3AAX, POTA Coordinator

10/24/2022
Date

Dots, Dashes & Tidbits

AREDN

One side of a long distance AREDN link.

Old Direct TV dish, meet my little friend MikroTik LDF5. Now I have to go up on the roof and take the other one down.

Larry Whited,



Spring 2023

SKYWARN STORM SPOTTER TRAINING

For North & Central Georgia

All classes are FREE, open to everyone and will be hosted by an NWS Meteorologist! Join us virtually or in-person.

For additional details such as dates & times visit:
www.weather.gov/ffc/skywarnsched

@NWSAtlanta   

Georgia Section Nets

ARES Phone & Digital Nets

*Note: GA ARES Net information can be found at
gaares.org – Select Nets & Frequencies*

Georgia Section ARES Net:

Section Net Manager – Frank Hobbs, KN4QJ
kn4qj@arrrl.net

Net control operator – Frank Hobbs, KN4QJ
Alt. net control operator – Jim Altman, W4UCK

Georgia Section ARES Digital Nets:

Section Digital Net Manager, Don Jones, K4GO
k4go@arrrl.net

Digital Team Leaders also serve as net control operators.

Winlink Team Lead, Russell Prevost, AB4QQ
Net control operators: Brian Freeman KN4DLT, Mark Bell N7GRB, Bill Hall K9HRO

PSK & Traffic Nets Team Lead, Del Davis, W4DEL
Net control operators: Bob Garza K4TLG, Don Jones K4GO Ken Wallis KM4HOS, Richard Austin W4BYT

D-RATS Net Team Lead, Hank Blackwood, K4HYJ
Net control operators: Rial Sloan AI4ZV, Brian Freeman KN4DLT, Ed Walraven KM4IOA, Carter Grant KN4KBL

A.R.E.S. Monthly Report for January 2023

Number of DEC/ECs reporting - 49
Number of ARES nets - 1564
Nets with NTS liaison - 5
Number of Exercises &
Training Sessions - 608 (3390 hrs.)
Number of Public Service events - 10 (195 hrs.)
Number of Emergency Operations - 2 (6 hrs.)
Number of SkyWarn Operations - 29 (88 hrs.)

Total of Exercises & Events 649

Total of person hours 3679

An Update on the Amateur Radio License Plate Fee

UPDATE - March 15, 2023

For Distribution to Amateur Radio Operators, Clubs and Friends of Amateur Radio.

The Motor Vehicle Committee passed and substituted **Senate Bill 35** to remove the license plate fees for an Amateur Radio License Plate. Continue your contacts with your Georgia Representative, Senator, the House Rules Committee and the Speaker of the House to support passage of Senate Bill 35.

You may find your Georgia Representative and Senator using this website:
https://openstates.org/find_your_legislator/?address=

The Speaker of the House is John Burns. His email is jon.burns@house.ga.gov

The House Rules Committee Members are:

Richard Smith, Chairman richard.smith@house.ga.gov
Mandi Ballinger, Vice Chairman mandi.ballinger@house.ga.gov
Rick Jasperse, Secretary rick.jasperse@house.ga.gov
James Beverly, Ex-Officio james.ber Beverly@house.ga.gov
Shaw Blackmon shaw.blackmon@house.ga.gov
James Burchett james.burchett@house.ga.gov
John Carson john.carson@house.ga.gov
Sharon Cooper sharon.cooper@house.ga.gov
Katie Dempsey katie.dempsey@house.ga.gov
Karla Dreener karla.dreener@house.ga.gov
Chuck Efstoration chuck.efstoration@house.ga.gov
Gerald Greene gerald.greene@house.ga.gov
Stan Gunter stan.gunter@house.ga.gov
Matt Hatchett matt.hatchett@house.ga.gov
Lee Hawkins lee.hawkins@house.ga.gov
Bill Hitchens bill.hitchens@house.ga.gov
Scott Holcomb scott.holcomb@house.ga.gov
Carolyn Hugley carolyn.hugley@house.ga.gov
Mack Jackson mack.jackson@house.ga.gov
Jan Jones jan.jones@house.ga.gov
David Knight david.knight@house.ga.gov
Eddit Lumsden eddie.lumsden@house.ga.gov
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Lynn Smith lynn.smith@house.ga.gov
Ron Stephens ron.stephens@house.ga.gov
Darlene Taylor darlene.taylor@house.ga.gov
Al Williams al.williams@house.ga.gov
Bruce Williamson bruce.williamson@house.ga.gov

Time is running short and a few minutes of your time will hopefully get it passed before the end of March.

Current version of Senate Bill 35, Section 3: <https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/63693>